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15 August 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF THE IAC

SUBJECT: Priority List of Critical National Intelligence Objectives

REFERENCE: Defense List transmitted by Air Force letter of 10 July 1950

ENCLOSURE: Draft of Proposed DCI 4/2

1. We should like to have a Standing Committee meeting on the above subject on Thursday, 24 August 1950, at 2:00 P. M. in the Director's Conference Room, 2430 E St., N. W., to discuss the enclosed proposal.

2. We feel that Critical Objectives must be few and of outstanding importance, above the ordinary work of the intelligence agencies, not too general nor so detailed as the guide type of requirements. The analysts and collectors working together will have to break down such an overall list into specific targets which under the general priority list will vary depending upon circumstances, gaps in knowledge, and related factors.

3. We should like to discuss these and related matters at the meeting on the 24th with a view towards firming up a priority list satisfactory to all intelligence agencies.

PRESCOTT CHILDS, Chief  
Coordination, Operations  
and Policy Staff

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